

Season 4 Episode 15

China Japanese

It is a bright clear morning in San Francisco and the mailman comes and puts mail in Jason and Mason's mailbox. Jason frantically dashes to the mailbox and he looks through the mail and there is a package with his name on it that has come from the company behind the GameStation. Jason said, "It's here." Jason runs inside the house and he cuts the package open and he finds a game CD in a jewel case. Jason said, "This quarter's issue of GameStation Interactive Demo Sampler is in." Jason puts the disc in his GameStation and he looks at all the new demos that are available. Jason goes through them and said, "Have it. Played it on another demo disc. Sports... eh, what else is new?" Jason finds a section on the demo disc called, "Imports." Jason said, "Imports? This could be interesting." Jason finds there is a demo for a Japanese import game and he plays it. He is greeted by a series of Japanese text and a voice reads it, "デモへようこそ。このゲームは日本でのみプレイ可能なので、アメリカ人の皆さんが体験できるのはこれがほとんどです。Demo e yōkoso. Kono gēmu wa Nihon de nomi purei kanōnanode, amerikahito no minasan ga taiken dekiru no wa kore ga hotondodesu. [*translation: Welcome to this demo. This game is only available in Japan so this is the most of what you Americans will get.*])" Jason said, "Cool. If only I knew what any of this is saying." Jason goes into the game and it is set in a restaurant venue where you use all kinds of crazy moves to complete orders and accomplish tasks around the restaurant. A server in the game greets everyone by saying, "いらっしやいませ Irasshaimase [*translation: Welcome*])." Jason uses the controller to pour beer for the customers and make all kinds of foods.

Mason walks into the TV room while Jason is playing the game and Mason looks at the abundance of Japanese text and dialogue coming out of the screen. Mason said, "What is this?" Jason said, "It is a new demo for a game called, Restaurant War. It is a demo for a game that only came out in Japan. It is quite a shame that us Americans will never get to play the full game of this. I'm hooked on this." The screen goes red and it shows armed ninjas attacking the restaurant. The announcer said, "レストランが攻撃を受けています。戦闘モードに切り替えてください。Resutoran ga kōgeki o ukete imasu. Sentō mōdo ni kirikaete kudasai. [*translation: Restaurant is under attack. Get into fighting mode.*])" Jason said, "Whoa. You get to fight ninjas in this game." Jason wobbles the controller around in battle as he fights off the ninjas. The screen forms into a plethora of random Japanese styled art of tanks blasting and cannons firing and samurai slashing at things. The demo ends and text appears on the

screen saying, “デモが完了しました。(Demo ga kanryō shimashita. [*translation: Demo completed*]).” Jason said, “I just wish I knew what any of this game said.” Mason said, “It is possible to learn this language. It involves years of studying and looking up various resources and...” Jason said, “And exposing yourself to the language by playing this game?” Mason said, “I guess you could do that. A proper language learning program would be the best.” Jason said, “How are we going to find something like that?” Mason said, “We live in San Francisco which is a city that is rich with Asian immigrants. I am sure we can find something to help us learn Japanese.”

Jason and Mason are watching a show on TV and commercials come on and there is an infomercial for a language learning software for your computer. The commercial said, “Do you ever come across movies, games, shows, or texts in general that are in languages you just don’t understand?” The screen is showing a random guy looking at crazy lines drawn on paper and he scratches his head. The announcer continues, “Your answer to this is to get the new Phonetic Star software. It is software that runs on your PC. It knows what parts of the brain to trigger to make learning new languages fun and easy. Even the young kids enjoy using this software. Phonetic Star makes a perfect gift for anyone that wishes they knew more languages than just English. You can try it for our low price of \$199.99. Once you own it, it is yours forever and you have access to a large catalog of languages ranging from, English, Spanish, French, Italian, German, Chinese, and even... Japanese. What are you waiting for? Call now to order.” Jason and Mason look at each other knowing what they are going to do next. Mason pulls out the phone.

Jason and Mason run to the mailbox one morning and they find the language software in the mail. They install it on the computer in Mason’s lab. They are given all kinds of Japanese texts and practices. Jason looks at the software and he said, “How are we supposed to figure this out? The ad made it seem simple that a kid can understand this.” Mason said, “Well, learning a language takes a lot of practice and effort. I am sure we can crack the code of this software and learn Japanese. I find this to be quite intriguing.” Jason said, “You can figure this out for us and give me some pointers. This just looks like a slob of text on the screen.” The screen shows ambiguous images that are vaguely associated with the words being shown. It shows a picture of a bolt and it says, “ボルト (Boruto [*translation: bolt*].)” The screen shows a picture of a penguin and it says, “ペンギン (penguin [*translation: penguin*]).” Then the screen displays an image of a large tractor beam in a sci-fi venue and it says, “トラクタービーム (Torakutābīmu [*translation: Tractor Beam*]).”

Jason said, “El Dorro knows some things about Japanese. I bet he would make a better teacher for this stuff than this. I will stick with Restaurant War and El Dorro for the time being.”

Family comes over to Jason and Mason’s house for a special event and Jason and Mason’s grandparents sit on the couch watching stuff on the TV. Jason sets up his GameStation system. Jason and Mason’s grandpa watches Jason set up his system and he said, “Is that the Vex Box?” Jason said, “Thank god it isn’t.” Mason said, “That’s the GameStation. It is a competitor of Vex Box.” Jason plays Restaurant War. The game gets to a part where Jason competes against a rival restaurant and the chef challenger said, “お前の頭を引き裂き、頭蓋骨を砕いてやる。

(Omae no atama o hikisaki, zugaikotsu o kudaite yaru. [*translation: I am going to rip your head out and smash your skull.*])”

Jason and Mason's grandparents watch the game and they burst out laughing over the crazy and random Japanese antics that are going on in the game. The grandpa said, "This some kind of a Chinese game?" Mason said, "It's Japanese." The grandpa said, "Why would Jason be playing the Japanese game?" Mason said, "It's a demo that Jason got from his GameStation subscription. He thinks it is fun and entertaining." The grandpa said, "All those people are just the commies. Those commies made this game to brainwash us Americans. We are better than this." Mason said, "Japan is not a communist country. Japan is a nice country that is high tech and they speak a language that is highly derived from the various languages of China. Some of their characters are the same and even some of their words are the same too." The grandpa said, "Why does Jason like to play the game when he doesn't know what they are saying?" Jason said, "Games are fun and any good game would not be bound to language barriers." Mason said, "He said it perfectly. We started studying this language. Jason doesn't care much about the software we got and I have been trying to study it. It mostly just contains words that are written using Katakana letters that would just sound mostly the same as they are in English. I haven't been getting very far with that software. I'm starting to think it was a scam." The grandma said, "Learning any language is better when you work with people that speak that language. I have a friend that is learning this language too and they are a member of a community of people that learn this language. I'm sure they would let you in their community if I put in a word for you. They are glad Americans are actually interested in learning their language."

Jason and Mason are given directions to a region of San Francisco mostly populated by Asian immigrants. Jason and Mason arrive at a large red and gold palace that has a large red star above it with a gold outline. The place is also heavily guarded by a tall heavy metal gate. Jason said, "This place doesn't look Japanese. Are you sure we went to the right place?" Mason said, "I am looking at the directions our grandmother gave us and I put them into my handheld GPS as well as the one on my watch and they both brought us to this location."

Jason and Mason arrive at the gate and there is a robot camera there that said, "说明您的业务和访问目的。(Shuōmíng nín de yèwù hé fǎngwèn mùdì. [*translation: State your business and purpose of visit.*])" Jason said, "I have no idea what it just said." Mason said, "We're Jason and Mason. Our grandmother referred us to you. We are interested in learning your language and joining your community." The gate opens and Jason and Mason enter the community grounds.

They look around the majestic gold statues of gods and world leaders. Jason and Mason make their way into the main palace where it looks like the inside of a Chinese temple or martial arts training venue. They see a large bald Asian master standing behind a cauldron of a red and green twisted liquid. There are other people there watching him chant in an unknown language. They stand in a square shaped section in the middle of the building and there are square shaped wooden walkways that wrap around the edges of the inside and there are several flights of them. There is also a very large projection screen that can be viewed from several floors of the palace and it is showing communist propaganda in Chinese. They stop chanting and they all take notice of Jason and Mason that just entered the venue. The bald master said, "You twins. Why have you entered the temple on these sacred red grounds?" Mason said, "We were referred to this place by our grandmother. We were told this is a community that can help us learn Japanese." The bald master said, "There is no

Japanese here. We hate those Japanese for what they did to our country and some other countries. We are the true country of Asia. We are the 2 Spikes. We come from the great communist land of China to spread communism to America. I am the great Communist Master Mao Qing. My goal is to rid you Americans of the wrong things you were taught about us." Jason said, "You are Chinese?" Mao said, "We are Chinese. What else would we be?" Mason said, "Damn grandmother. I don't think she knows Chinese and Japanese are two different things." Mao said, "They certainly are." Jason said, "Well, it looks like we went to the wrong place. We will get heading out now." Jason and Mason attempt to leave the temple but the large heavy metal red and gold doors close leaving them trapped inside.

Mao said, "You two will never leave. You will be subjected to our indoctrination." Large bald Chinese thugs grab on to Jason and Mason and they are pushed to the cauldron. Mao said, "The forces of capitalism have successfully brainwashed you with their fraudulent illusions of gain and wealth. Our communist ways are the best ways. You will see once you..." Mason presses a button on his watch and his robot mech in his lab is activated. It comes flying out of the lab and it smashes through one of the walls of the temple. Mason jumps in the mech and he uses it to grab the cauldron and he pours out its contents. Jason goes into Kung Fu mode and he fights off some of the Chinese thugs. Mason picks up Jason and he uses the rockets in the feet of his mech to dash out of the temple. They are speeding for the front gate and just before they make contact with the gate, Mason's mech gets zapped by a Chinese thug with a shock stick and it begins to malfunction and spin out of control. Mason frantically attempts to regain control of the mech. With the little control he has left, he throws Jason over the gate and he lands outside of the grounds. Mason gets ripped out of his mech by the thugs and is brought into custody. Jason runs away from the grounds.

Jason huffs and puffs down the streets of San Francisco mostly populated by Asian immigrants. Jason said, "What am I going to do now? I think El Dorro has a place somewhere around here. Maybe he knows something about the communist club."

Jason finds El Dorro where El Dorro is seated in an office that has a traditional Japanese design to it and he is dressed like a traditional Japanese warrior. El Dorro said, "Hmm... I think I've heard of the, 2 Spikes before. I know a wizard that lives in this community. I think he knows more about this."

El Dorro takes Jason to a building that looks like an ancient Asian dojo and it is filled with all kinds of Asian statues and art. Jason is brought to a Chinese wizard. El Dorro said, "This is the Wizard I was telling you about." Jason said, "Mr. Wizard. My twin was captured by a criminal organization that calls themselves the 2 Spikes and they say they come from China with the goal of spreading communism to America." The Wizard said, "Oh, god. The 2 Spikes are back. I haven't heard from them in a long time." Jason said, "Do you know how to defeat them?" The Wizard said, "I've been attempting to track them down and end their organization for years. The 2 Spikes are more powerful than you realize. They have created all kinds of magical substances that are used to poison the minds of the people that are brought into their community. They claim they spread communism in the name of China and they are a perfect representation of what China is, but that is a lie. The Chinese government doesn't want anything to do with these freaks anymore. They brainwashed my family and made them work as their slaves. They even murdered my adoptive son's parents." Someone that looks around Jason and Mason's age walks out and he is wearing a long sleeve shirt with patches and shorts also with patches in them. He has black hair with curved sharp edges.

The wizard said, "This is Egbert. I created him. I have experimented with magical substances just like the 2 Spikes but unlike them, I actually use these powers for good. The 2 Spikes wanted Egbert. I gave him powers than no normal person would have. I let him stay with my daughter's family but the 2 Spikes killed them in an attempt to take Egbert. After a magical powered battle, I narrowly escaped with Egbert and I moved to this part of San Francisco where I didn't think the 2 Spikes would ever reach me. I guess they have found me and they are moving in on me. That must be why they established this base of operations of theirs."

Jason sees the Chinese kid from the Burby episode show up in the Wizard's place. Jason said, "Hey, I remember you. You're that kid whose grandfather ran that store that sold me the burby. How's he doing?" The kid said, "After the burby incident, everyone thought my grandfather was partially responsible for the whole thing so people stopped going to his store. He went bankrupt shortly after and came across the 2 Spikes and they said they would help him get his store back if he made a deal with them. They brainwashed him and now he is a slave of theirs." The wizard said, "I like to serve as a foster parent for any kids that have lost their parents to the 2 Spikes."

Mason is at the 2 Spikes main lair where Chinese thugs are taking him up sets of stairs and through the floors where he sees other people that were brainwashed by them. They move up to the different floors and they catch glimpses of the large projection screen showing more communist propaganda. Mason looks at one of the floors and he sees a large amount of brainwashed victims typing away at computers. Mason said, "What are they doing?" Mao said, "They are finding any evidence of the existence of the Japanese language online and they are eliminating it. They also successfully hacked the databases for Phonetic Star and made their Japanese curriculum boring and primitive so no one would be interested in learning Japanese." Mason said, "So that's why that software was bland and uninteresting." Mao is leading them through the halls and he said, "Normally we would be using our signature brainwashing potion on you but since you destroyed our only cauldron of that stuff and it takes a few hours to make more of it, we are going to make you work for us as a slave regardless." They take Mason to an even larger cauldron where some Chinese thugs are putting certain substances in it. Mason said, "A larger cauldron? What do you plan on doing with this?" Mao said, "We, the 2 Spikes are more elaborate than you think. We know that subjugating everyone in San Francisco is not enough to make America a true communist country. We would have to do more. With this potion, we will be able to alter history's timeline and make it that America and the rest of the world was always communist and they were always ruled by the 2 Spikes." Mason said, "That sounds absurd. Time travel is possible but doing it with potions seems outrageous." Mao said, "The other brainiac we duped didn't seem to think that." Mason sees Keith is there and he is helping the 2 Spikes create formulas to enter into the cauldron. Mao said, "You will work on this whether you like it or not." One of the thugs takes out a whip and he whips Mason and he said, "Get to work."

Jason is with Egbert, El Dorro, and the Wizard. Egbert said, "I want to put my special powers to use. We shall take down the 2 Spikes before they do anything that will result in us not existing anymore." Jason said, "Yeah. Those 2 Spikes are nothing but fools." Egbert said, "I can feel something horribly bad is happening here in San Francisco and the 2 Spikes are behind it. I can't quite put my finger on it but I know something is up. It is as if they are building some bizarre kind of weapon or something like that." The Wizard said, "You are using some of those powers I gave you. Now is your time to shine." Jason said, "I have

another friend that can help us with this. We can go and bum rush the 2 Spikes' place, rescue Mason and end their plans." The Wizard said, "Let's get suited up." El Dorro brings his collection of katanas and shurikens. Jason brings his GameStation with the demo disc that has Restaurant War on it. El Dorro sees him bring that and he said, "Why are you bringing your GameStation?" Jason said, "Something tells me we might be needing it."

Jason, El Dorro, Egbert, and the Wizard get into the Fusion Mobile with Captain Fusion driving it and they head for the 2 Spikes' lair. The Fusion Mobile uses its turbo speed boosters to blast down the streets of San Francisco and it locks onto the 2 Spikes' palace. The Fusion Mobile rams down the front gate and it keeps driving into the palace and it breaks through the doors and some of the walls. The heroes get out and Chinese thugs start attacking them. Captain Fusion smacks down one of the thugs and he clinks the heads of two of them together. El Dorro takes out his katanas and he uses them to fight off the thugs. Jason is next to Egbert. Jason said, "Do you know where their secret weapon is?" Egbert said, "I think I know where it is. Come with me." Jason, Egbert, and the rest of the heroes follow Egbert up the stairs as they battle off more thugs.

Egbert takes them to the section with the large cauldron and they see Mason topless with his arms and legs chained to a wall and they use a shock stick on him. Jason said, "Mason!" Captain Fusion fights off some buff thugs and he uses a fusion cutter to cut off the chains. The heroes see the large cauldron and Keith is helping the 2 Spikes members load the cauldron with different ingredients. Egbert said, "That's their ultimate weapon." Jason said, "A large pot?" Egbert walks up to the top of the pot where the liquid is and he can feel his body interacting with the contents of the cauldron. Egbert waves his hands around and the substances are reacting to the motion of his hands. Egbert sticks his finger into the substance and he gets visions of the 2 Spikes ruling the world with their communist traits. Egbert takes his finger out and he said, "This is much worse than I thought." Mao said, "You're right about that. Our weapon is mostly ready to go and thanks to all you guys trying to play the hero, you brought us the final ingredient. Our slave potion is now completed." Mao takes a flask and he grabs onto Egbert's face and he pours the contents of the flask down Egbert's mouth and Egbert looks dead inside. Mao said, "Good. Now you will alter history so we are the true rulers of America and the world." Egbert waves his arms around the cauldron and he begins to alter history. The Wizard said, "No!!! You won't have my Egbert!!!" The Wizard jumps up next to Mao and they start fighting. They start using their magical powers and they get into a magically powered battle.

More thugs come out and Jason, El Dorro, and Captain Fusion fight them off. Mao makes several flasks of slave potion fly around him and he starts throwing them at the Wizard. The Wizard dodges the throws as he jumps on the different floors of the building. He jumps from floor to floor and he gets bombarded by thugs that pound him into the floor. Mao pours the slave potion down his mouth. El Dorro said, "Well, it looks like both of our magical friends are now on the enemy's side. What do we do now?" Jason sees large groups of slaves watching the propaganda on the large projection screen. Jason also gets a flashback of Mao saying that he hates the Japanese. Jason said, "I think I know what to do now."

Jason, El Dorro, and Captain Fusion dash for the projection floor while Captain Fusion charges and breaks through barricades of thugs. They find the projector. Captain Fusion said, "You think you can show them something that will undo their brainwashing?" Jason said, "It might just work." Jason unhooks the VCR with the Chinese propaganda tape on it

and he hooks up his GameStation to the projector. Egbert and the Wizard attempt breaking into the projection floor and Captain Fusion pushes on the door in an attempt to keep them out. Mason, and El Dorro look outside a large window and they see the sky is red and there are communist propaganda signs in Chinese outside saying things like, “共產主義是生活方式。(Gòngchǎn zhǔyì shì shēnghuó fāngshì. [*Translation: Communism is the way of life.*])” and, “兩根尖刺正注視著你 (Liǎng gēn jiān cì zhèng zhùshìzhe nǐ [*Translation: 2 Spikes are watching you.*])” Mason said, “It looks like another universe changing moment has happened. I feel like I should be traumatized by this but I’m not. I guess I am desensitized from all the reality warping predicaments we’ve been through.”

Egbert and the Wizard break down the door and they use their magic and they throw Captain Fusion to the side. Jason starts playing Restaurant War and a voice comes over the projector saying, “いらっしゃいませ Irasshaimase [*translation: Welcome*]).” All the brainwashed victims begin to lose their brainwash. Jason keeps playing the game and it says, “レストランが攻撃を受けています。戦闘モードに切り替えてください。Resutoran ga kōgeki o ukete imasu. Sentō mōdo ni kirikaete kudasai. [*translation: Restaurant is under attack. Get into fighting mode.*])” All the Japanese text and dialogue flies through the minds of all the imprisoned victims and their brainwashing is suddenly broken. Egbert and the Wizard return to normal. Egbert said, “What happened?” Mason said, “You were brainwashed by the 2 Spikes to become their slave and to alter history so the 2 Spikes always ruled the world.” El Dorro said, “I think you’re the only one that can go into that cauldron and undo the damage the 2 Spikes leader caused.” Egbert spots the cauldron and he jumps for it. Mao tries to stop him but Egbert resists. Egbert jumps into the cauldron and he swims through the flow of time. He sees visual curved lava lamp like flowing lines that represent timelines. He sees the timelines that were altered by Mao. Mao jumps in and he swims after Egbert. He grabs onto Egbert and he holds him in place. Jason, Mason, Captain Fusion, El Dorro, and the Wizard jump in the cauldron and they overpower Mao and they grab onto him and throw him out of the cauldron. Egbert finds the tampered timelines and he sees they are glowing red. He uses his magic on them and he corrects them and he makes them appear as they are supposed to.

They get out of the cauldron and they see everyone has been freed from the brainwashing. The Chinese kid reunites with his grandfather. The world outside is normal again. Mao Qing attempts to run away but Captain Fusion stretches out his long arm and he grabs onto Mao and said, “Where do you think you’re going?”

Mao is placed in a confined prison space and his eyes are kept open by some contraption and he is looking at a screen that is showing Restaurant War and Japanese words and phrases are flying out of the screen and Mao yells in pain.

Jason, Mason, El Dorro, Egbert and the Wizard are in Mason’s lab and Mason’s computer is connected to a large projector and they are using a fun and interactive looking software to learn Japanese. Jason said, “It’s a good thing we told Phonetic Star about them getting hacked.” Mason said, “Yeah and they gave us a free copy of the corrected version of the software.” Jason said, “The Japanese language truly is a masterpiece of a language. It is a lot simpler than English in a lot of ways.” The software goes on and shows them some meaningful words and phrases in Japanese:

Konnichiwa (こんにちは): Hello / Good afternoon

Ohayou gozaimasu (おはようございます): Good morning

Konbanwa (こんばんは): Good evening

Sayounara (さようなら): Goodbye

Oyasumi nasai (おやすみなさい): Good night

Hajimemashite (はじめまして): Nice to meet you

Arigatou gozaimasu (ありがとうございます): Thank you very much

Sumimasen (すみません): Excuse me / I'm sorry

Onegaishimasu (お願いします): Please

Kudasai (ください): Please (used when asking for something)

Dō itashimashite (どういたしまして): You're welcome

Gomenasai (ごめんなさい): I am sorry

Hai (はい): Yes

Iie (いいえ): No

Daijōbu (大丈夫): It's okay / I'm okay

O-genki desu ka? (お元気ですか?): How are you?

Ikura desu ka? (いくらですか?): How much does this cost?

Kore o kudasai (これをください): I'd like this, please.

Sumimasen, menu onegaishimasu (すみません、メニューおねがいします): Sorry, may I have the menu, please?

Eigo o hanashimasu ka? (英語を話しますか?): Do you speak English?

Wakarimasen (わかりません): I don't understand.

Egbert and the Wizard were created by Carlos Soupotown

